

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application. The Examiner has reopened prosecution of the application in response to the Appeal Brief.

The Examiner has newly rejected Claims 1-11 under 35 USC 102 as anticipated by Hansen. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants believe that the claims are patentable over the cited art.

The Hansen patent is directed to a system and method for compensating for temperature-induced brightness variations in a display circuit. A sample display circuit, which is similar to the circuit of interest (e.g., the FED), generates a performance indicator signal under the same operating conditions as those encountered by the circuit of interest. The performance indicator signal is compared to a reference signal to obtain a difference signal. The difference signal reflects the amount of signal variation encountered due to the operating temperature. Once the difference signal is determined, that signal is continuously applied to both the sample circuit and the circuit of interest (i.e., the FED). The way that the signal is applied is to apply "V" to conductors in the rows while applying "-V" (the inverted signal) to conductors in the columns.

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Applicants respectfully assert that the Hansen patent does not anticipate the invention as claimed. Hansen applies the same voltage level, although inverted, to both the row conductors and the column conductors. The present invention expressly recites "means for providing cut-off correction information to one of said first or said second plurality of parallel conductors". Under the claimed invention, cut-off and/or gain correction information is applied to either all of the first plurality of conductors or all of the second plurality of conductors. The correction information is not supplied to both the row and column conductors, as is the case with Hansen.

Applicants further note that the Hansen patent teaches that the difference signal is continually applied to both the row and column conductors to continually compensate for the brightness variations that would be encountered due to the ambient operating temperature. In contrast, the present invention, as recited in Claims 6-8, provides cut-off and/or gain correction information to either the first conductors or the second conductors to compensate for variations in cut-off and gain which occur during warm-up. In the course of warm-up, the need for correction will change, based on the changes in the temperature (i.e., the warming up), and the value of the applied cut-off and gain correction information will accordingly vary. While Hansen applies a constant voltage (i.e., the difference signal) to both the row and column conductors, the present invention applies

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variable correction information to only the row conductors or only the column conductors to compensate for the dynamically-changing variations in cut-off and gain which occur during warm-up.

Under 35 USC 102, for a patent to anticipate claim language, that patent must teach each and every claim feature. Since the cited teachings of the Hansen patent do not teach means for providing cut off correction information to one of said first or said second plurality of parallel conductors, it cannot be maintained that Hansen anticipates the language of Claims 1-11. Moreover, Hansen does not dynamically sense temperature and does not dynamically adjust cut-off and/or gain correction information based on the dynamic sensing.

Based on the foregoing remarks, Applicants request withdrawal of the rejections, and issuance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,  
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